In the Specification:

Replace the paragraph at pg. 15, line 21 bridging pg. 16, line 19 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraphs:

-- Figure 3 shows a schematic representation of another filtration plant of the invention with multistage countercurrent diafiltration D1, D2, D3 and multistage ultrafiltration U1, U2, U3 upstream of the diafiltration. It differs from the filtration plant illustrated in Figure 2 only in that there is a third ultrafiltration stage U3 with the same design as stages U1 and U2 and that two additional diafiltration stages D2, D3 are installed between the ultrafiltration stages U1, U2, U3 and the diafiltration stage D1.

As with the case of the multistage filtration plant shown in figure 2, the three ultrafiltration stages U1, U2, U3 shown in figure 3 are constructed in a well-known way as open retentate circulation systems with cross-flow filtration elements 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e and circulation pumps 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e and are installed in series in the product feed line 6 of the diafiltration stages D1, D2, D3 such that a product that is already concentrated is supplied to the product circulation of the diafiltration stages D1, D2, D3.

~~These~~ Therefore, the additional diafiltration stages D2, D3 have practically the same design as diafiltration stage D1, except that they have no supply line for wash water. Instead of this, however, they are each connected on the intake side of their permeate pumps 13a, 13b not only with the permeate outlet of their own filtration elements 1a, 1b but also with the permeate outlet of the diafiltration stage D2, D1 immediately downstream, so that their product circulations can be

supplied with their own permeate and/or permeate of the following diafiltration stage as wash fluid. In this way, the permeate outlets of the filtration elements 1, 1a, 1b of all of the diafiltration stages D1, D2, D3 are connected with one another and discharge excess diafiltered permeate into the diafiltered permeate discharge line 15, which serves as a collecting line and opens into a ventilated diafiltered permeate collecting tank or a permeate collecting tank (not shown). The collecting tank is maintained at atmospheric pressure by the ventilation. This is important in the present case, because the filtration elements 1, 1a, 1b are equipped with laminated membranes, which would be destroyed by a negative transmembrane pressure. The permeate outlets of the cross-flow filtration elements 1c, 1d, 1e of the ultrafiltration stages U1, U2, U3 are connected with a permeate collecting line 15a, through which the permeate produced in the stages U1, U2, U3 can be removed and conveyed to a permeate tank (also not shown), which is also ventilated. --